

WASHINGTON- Congressman Spencer Bachus is very pleased to announce that a Fire Department in St. Clair County has been awarded badly needed funding through the Homeland Security grant program.

The department and amount received is as follows:

-Leeds Fire Department: \$66,240- Operations and Firefighter Safety Equipment

The Leeds Fire Department received this grant from the Homeland Security Department based

on recommendations from nine major national fire service organizations. Many fire and rescue departments applied for the grant, but only the applications most closely conforming to program priorities were reviewed and scored by peer review panels, which began in mid April and were completed in early May. National awards will be announced on a weekly basis beginning in June 2004, with the competitive funds obligated by the end of September 2005.

These funds are used by the nation's firefighters to increase the effectiveness of firefighting operations, firefighter health and safety programs, new fire apparatus, emergency medical service programs, and

fire prevention and safety programs.

Congressman Bachus congratulates the Leeds Fire Department for its hard work in securing this grant because they will further provide the citizens of the City of Leeds with added fire and medical response capabilities.

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